

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 00255 201043Z

17/40

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 PM-03 L-02 NSC-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 /065 W

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R 191420Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0502

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CONAKRY 0255

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (E.O. TAGS SUBJECT LINES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR GV LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE MINISTERIAL DELEGATION VISITS CONAKRY

REF: CONAKRY 1453; 1374 (1974)

1. MINISTERIAL DELEGATION HEADED BY FIRST VICE PREMIER MICHEL SASSINE, ARRIVED CONAKRY 18 FEB FOR ONE-WEEK VISIT. DELEGATION ALSO INCLUDES MAHMOUD AMMAR, MINISTER OF INFORMATION; ADEL ISMAIL, DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN FOREIGN MINISTRY; LEBANESE AMBASSADOR TO CONAKRY, HUSSEIN CHARAF; AND A DOCTOR GABRA, NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED.

2. DELEGATION HAS RECEIVED EXTREMELY WARM WELCOME, WITH UNUSUAL BANQUET GIVEN FEB 18 AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE BY PRESIDENT AND MME. TOURE. ELABORATE PROGRAM SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT WEEK INCLUDES VISITS TO SEVERAL INTERNAL CITIES AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS WITH EXTENSIVE PARTICIPATION CONAKRY'S LARGE LEBANESE COLONY.

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3. DEPT WILL RECALL (REFTELS) THAT GOG TOLD LEBANESE LAST SEPTEMBER THAT LEBANESE PRISONERS NOW IN GUINEAN JAILS WOULD BE RELEASED ON OCCASION OF MINISTERIAL DELEGATION VISIT WHICH ORIGINALLY SLATED FOR LATE 1974 BUT THEN POSTPONED. RELEASE WOULD INCLUDE ALSO LEBANESE-FRENCH DUAL NATIONALS, WHICH WOULD PRESUMABLY SIMPLIFY MORE DIFFICULT QUESTION OF RELEASING OTHER FRENCH PRISONERS. LEBANESE COLONY IN CONAKRY IS OPTIMISTIC THAT RELEASE WILL BE ANNOUNCED.

4. SEVERAL DIPLOMATIC SOURCES HAVE ALSO INFORMED US RECENTLY THAT RELEASE OF LEBANESE PRISONERS WOULD BE CONNECTED WITH RELEASE OF GUINEAN ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP, ALSO IMPRISONED SINCE 1971. DELEGATION FROM VATICAN, HEADED BY PAPAL NUNCIO TO ABIDJAN (ALSO ACCREDITED TO GUINEA) VISITED CONAKRY LAST WEEK, BUT WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION ON RESULTS HIS MISSION.
MACDONALD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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